

U.S.S.N. 10/607,247

Filed: June 25, 2003

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**Remarks**

Claims 1-31 and 33-35 have been canceled. Claim 32 has been amended. New claims 36-42, which depend from claim 32, have been added. Claim 32 has been amended to specify that in addition to the macromer, the coating contains one or more polysaccharides and to specify that the substrate material is a textured material. The polysaccharide may be inert or bioactive. Support for the amendments to claim 32 can be found in the specification at least at page 9, line 15 (substantially water soluble); page 14, lines 17 -19 (polysaccharide); and page 26, lines 4-11 (textured material). Support for new claim 36 can be in the specification at least at page 26, lines 4-11. Support for new claim 37 can be found in the specification at least at page 10, second paragraph and page 11, lines 1-8. Support for new claim 38 can be found in the specification at least at page 19, lines 17-23. Support for new claims 39 and 41 can be found in claim 32 as originally filed. Support for new claim 40 can be found in the specification at least at page 15, lines 17-19. Support for new claim 42 can be found in the specification at least at page 11, lines 18-21.

Response to Restriction Requirement

In the Office Action mailed August 2, 2005, the claims were divided into three groups: group I, claims 1-31 and 35, drawn to methods of encapsulating or supporting a biological material, preparation of a substrate and applying a polymeric coating to tissue or cells; group II, claim 32, drawn to a substrate having a polymeric coating; and group III, claims 33 and 34,

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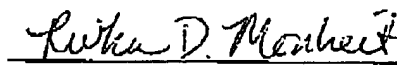
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drawn to a coating on a tissue lumen. In response, applicants elect group II, drawn to a substrate having a polymeric coating.

Favorable consideration of claims 32 and 36-42, as amended, is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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